

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-13 and 15-32 remain pending in the application. Claims 14 and 33-60 have been cancelled and claims 1-4 and 13 have been amended, without prejudice or disclaimer of any previously claimed subject matter. Applicant preserves the right to prosecute any previously claimed subject matter in one more continuation or divisional applications.

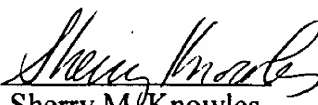
In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner imposed a species election requirement under § 121 between:

- (1) the processes of claim 1 and all dependent claims; and
- (2) the processes of claims 3, 4 and all dependent claims.

Applicant hereby elects species (2), directed to the processes for resolving the ester of claims 3, 4 and all dependent claims, i.e., the ester, 2-butyryloxy-methyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane. Claims readable on the elected species include claims 1-13 and 15-32, as now amended.

Examination of the elected claims is respectfully requested. It is noted that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional required fees that are not enclosed to Deposit Account No. 11-0980.

Respectfully submitted,
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